

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01

AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06 NEA-09 OIC-02 /131 W

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R 181700Z APR 75

FM U S MISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2223

INFO USEC BRUSSELS 4489

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, GATT

SUBJECT: GATT HANDLING OF LOME CONVENTION

REF: (1) BRUSSELS 3162; (2) GENEVA 2338

1. TWO WEEKS HAVE NOW PASSED SINCE LUYTEN APPROACH TO US REPORTED REFTEL (2) AND WE HOPE FOR EARLY AUTHORIZATION TO GIVE HIM POSITIVE RESPONSE SINCE WE BELIEVE THAT IDEA OF DEALING WITH LOME CONVENTION THROUGH WAIVER-LIKE DECISION IS BY FAR THE BEST OF THE VARIOUS POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES.

2. PATTERSON OF GATT SECRETARIAT PHONED US THIS MORNING TO ASK ABOUT US POSITION CONCERNING DEALING WITH MATTER THROUGH REVISION OF GATT PART IV. WE REPORTED WE HAD NO WASHINGTON GUIDANCE ON THIS BUT THAT ON PERSONAL BASIS WE SAW PROBLEMS OF PERMANENT AUTHORIZATION FOR SPECIAL PREFERENCES WHICH WOULD BE INVOLVED IN A NEW PART IV PROVISION TO COVER THIS SUBJECT. WE ALSO NOTED THAT EC APPARENTLY WANTS FAIRLY EARLY GATT ACTION ON MATTER (WHICH WE ALSO THINK APPROPRIATE)

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AND THAT ANY EXERCISE AMENDING PART IV LIKELY TO BE LONG

DRAWN OUT. PATTERSON CITED LDC PRESSURE IN UN AND ELSEWHERE FOR NEW INTERNATIONAL TRADE ORGANIZATION AND SEEMED TO FEEL THAT EXERCISE AMENDING PART IV MIGHT BE MEANS OF DEFUSING THAT ISSUE. HE ALSO NOTED THAT US TRADE LEGISLATION CALLED FOR REFORM OF TRADING SYSTEM AND FELT THAT IN VIEW OF THIS US SHOULD ALSO FAVOR AMENDMENT PART IV. WE RESPONDED THAT THERE ARE CERTAINLY OTHER MEANS OF REFORMING TRADING SYSTEM OTHER THAN AMENDMENT GATT PART IV. WE ALSO NOTED THAT EFFORT TO CHANGE PART IV WOULD PROBABLY OPEN UP PANDORA'S BOX OF THORNY ISSUES. WITHOUT PREJUDGING QUESTION OF HOW US MIGHT REACT TO TWO PROPOSALS FROM LDCS FOR AMENDING PART IV, WE EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT US WOULD WANT TO OPEN UP THIS ISSUE AT THIS TIME AS MEANS OF DEALING WITH LOME CONVENTION PROBLEM. WE EXPRESSED VIEW ON PERSONAL BASIS THAT WAIVER-LINK DECISION WOULD BE BETTER METHOD, AND PATTERSON SEEMED TO AGREE NOTING THAT GATT SECRETARIAT'S KEY CONCERN WAS TO AVOID GATT PRESENTATION AND APPROVAL LOME CONVENTION UNDER ARTICLE XXIV. WE REITERATED THAT US ENTIRELY SHARES THAT CONCERN.DALE

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